

BEARSTED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of Bearsted Parish Council held at King George V Memorial Hall, Manor Rise, Bearsted on Tuesday 15th October, 2019 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Jon Hughes (Chair)
Cllr Frank Jagger (Vice Chair)
Cllr Richard Ash MBE
Cllr Suzanne Camp
Cllr Fabienne Hughes
Cllr Pat Marshall MBE

Also in attendance was the Assistant Clerk Erin Sugden (AC).

1. **Declarations of intention to record**
The Assistant Clerk recorded the meeting for the purpose of the minutes.
2. **Reports from members of the public**
None.
3. **Apologies and absence**
No apologies received.
4. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
None declared.
5. **Minutes of the last meeting:**
The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting of Tuesday 17th September, 2019 were agreed as a true record and duly signed.
6. **Matters arising from the last minutes and action points.**
The Assistant Clerk updated the committee about the action points from last month's meeting.
7. **Church Landway/Church Car Park**
 - a) Correspondences: None received
 - b) Quotation to improve steps at Church Lane Car Park- The AC to source two additional quotations.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK
 - c) Update of location for bench donation and quote for installation: The committee are waiting for the donor to make contact with regards to the bench.
 - d) Church Landway Surface: The Councillors have assessed the surface this month and are in agreement that there are some areas that need rectifying. It was agreed with all in favour that Cllr F Hughes will arrange a meeting with the original contractor to seek advice on how best to rectify the issues.

ACTION: CLLR F HUGHES /CLLR JAGGER
 - e) Antisocial driving in car park: The AC to request mobile CCTV from the police to monitor the area.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

8. Highways & Footpaths

a) Correspondence:

i) Rotten Tree in Scout Field: The information about the tree will be passed onwards to the Scouts and the AC will respond to the resident.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

ii) Parking at Madginford School: The letter from the resident was acknowledged and Cllr Jagger informed the committee that this area is on the HIP. The AC will inform the resident of the HIP which has been sent to KCC for consideration.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

iii) Chicanes in Spot Lane: There was discussion about the request of the resident. However, the committee all voted in favour of not taking any action at the present time as areas within the Parish with no speeding measures are being prioritised. The AC will respond to resident.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

b) Joint Traffic Working Group: The review of core crash sites is being prioritised by KCC over all other request. Progress of HIP is very slow and needs to be escalated. The Comms Committee will be asked to release information.

c) Progress with Highway Improvement Plan: As above

d) Manor Rise Correspondence: BPC are waiting for KCC to respond after a site visit.

e) Parking restrictions at Ashford Road Shops: Deferred to Traffic Working Group.

9. General Maintenance

a) To identify/ratify essential maintenance issues: None

b) Footpaths for clearance: The Community Payback Team bag litter in the vicinity of Smart Cottages/The Green for Waring to then collect and dispose of.

c) Tree on Madginford Road: A report was received from the Community Warden about a tree on a verge in front of 52 Madginford Road over hanging the footpath and a residential property. Both KCC and MBC have informed BPC it is not their land. Cllr Marshall will write a letter to MBC for the AC to print explaining the history of this parcel of land and request assistance.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK/CLLR MARSHALL

10. Bearsted Green

a) Correspondence:

i) Request for information: The AC will respond to the resident.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

b) Pond management: Cllr Hannington to update the council at the next Full Council.

c) Finger posts: Cllr J Hughes reported that one of the finger arrows on the sign post sited at The Green is being renovated. It was proposed that this gets reinstated at no cost. This was agreed with all in favour.

ACTION: CLLR J HUGHES

11. Allotments

a) Correspondence:

i) Request for shed: A plot holder has requested to install a shed on their plot but the recommendation will be made to them that a shed can only be erected as agreed with Ehc Allotment Committee allow. The AC will inform the plot holder.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

12. Meadow Bank

- a) Correspondence: None received
- b) Grazing of livestock: Wildwood Trust advised that Soay Sheep would be suitable for this area but a self-filling trough would need to be installed. The fencing to the west would need to be fixed. Cllr J Hughes to speak to the owner of the neighbouring field.

ACTION: CLLR J HUGHES

13. Open Spaces

- a) Play areas
 - i) Benches: Deferred to the Spring
 - ii) Fences: Deferred to the Spring
 - iii) Outcome of survey: Cllr J Hughes to assess and handyman will be instructed to fix the issues.

ACTION: CLLR J HUGHES

- b) Holy Cross sign: The Holy Cross sign post has been hit by another car and is now bent. It was proposed that the AC ask KCC to remove the sign with all in favour.
- c) War Memorial cleaning: The AC to seek further recommendations as to whether the War Memorial requires cleaning. The AC will then write to the Holy Cross Church to inform them that BPC will not require this to be done by their contractor.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

- d) Library garden: This was maintained as of this week.

14. Budget 2020-21

The budget lines for Canine Waste Removal and Rosemary Road maintenance will need to be removed. Notice boards will need to move to Communications Committee budget. Warnings are due to increase their prices due to the increase of minimum wage. Fencing and tree maintenance for Meadow Bank will need to be increased and it was recommended that the fencing around the play area on the Green and the allotment at Church Lane will need to be considered for replacement to proof them long term. The AC will get an idea of prices for powder coated fences. An overall increase of 3% will be put to Finance Committee for their consideration.

ACTION: ASSISTANT CLERK

15. CPRE Membership

By unanimous vote it was agreed to renew the membership at a cost of £36.

16. General Correspondence: None received.

17. Update of policies

Deferred to next meeting.

18. Future Agenda Items

Donated bench
Confirmation of Budget 2020-21
Update of Policies

19. Date of next Meeting, 19th November, 2019

There being no further business to transact, the meeting ended at 20.57m.

Signed..... Date.....